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KEN SHANNON

CRIME-BUSTING PRIVATE EYE

"Cold chills ran down my spine
as a light flashed on suddenly-
making me a perfect target..."

Don't miss-
Ken Shannon
IN
**CUT RATE
CORPSES!**





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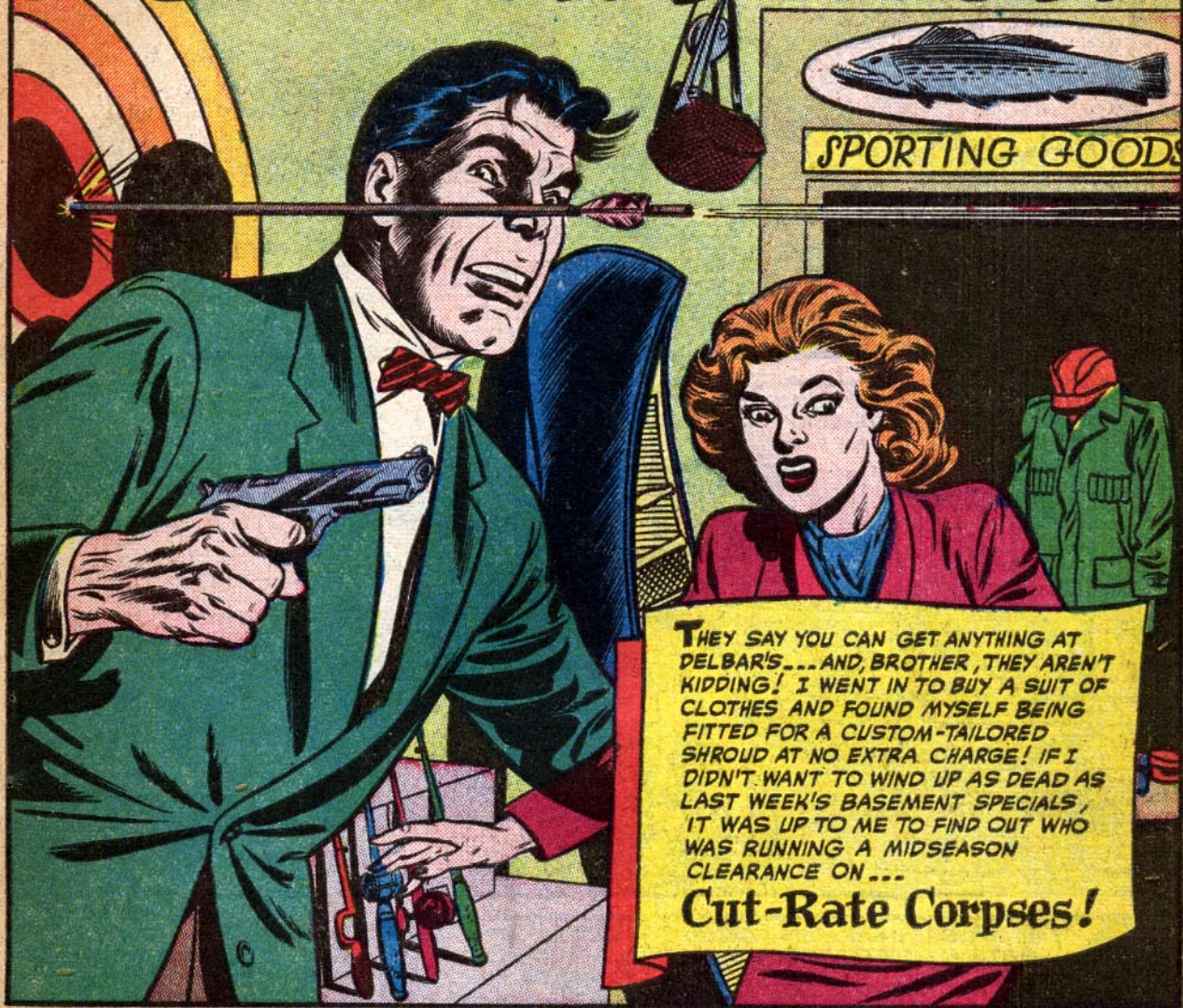
EVERY ISSUE A HIT WITH A MILLION READERS

Blackhawk

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KEN SHANNON

KEN SHANNON



THEY SAY YOU CAN GET ANYTHING AT DELBAR'S... AND, BROTHER, THEY AREN'T KIDDING! I WENT IN TO BUY A SUIT OF CLOTHES AND FOUND MYSELF BEING FITTED FOR A CUSTOM-TAILORED SHROUD AT NO EXTRA CHARGE! IF I DIDN'T WANT TO WIND UP AS DEAD AS LAST WEEK'S BASEMENT SPECIALS, IT WAS UP TO ME TO FIND OUT WHO WAS RUNNING A MIDSEASON CLEARANCE ON...

Cut-Rate Corpses!



DAVIS DELBAR,

The head of Delbar's and whether he liked it or not, merchandise manager of murder!



SELWIN SKYME,

Delbar's treasurer, who hated blood because it looked too much like red ink!



DAWN GALEY,

Her specialties were Ladies wear and men's purses!



Can you identify the Kill-Peddler who made murders cheaper by the dozen?

MY SECRETARY, DEE DEE DAWSON, HAD BEEN NEEDLING ME FOR WEEKS TO BUY A NEW SUIT! I TOOK IT JUST SO LONG... AND FINALLY GAVE IN!

OH, KEN! ISN'T IT DIVINE?

IDIOTIC WAS THE WORD I HAD IN MIND!



LET'S GET THIS SUIT-BUYING OVER WITH! YOU CAN OGLE THAT MONSTROSITY ON YOUR OWN TIME!

HMMPH! IT'S MIGHTY FUNNY... IF SOME DIZZY BLONDE WALTZED BY WITH THAT HAT ON, YOUR EYEBALLS WOULD POP!



I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU, PET! SOMETIMES I DON'T EVEN NOTICE THEIR HATS!

HA! YOU'RE TELLING ME!



COME ON, CHARACTER! MEN'S FURNISHINGS ARE OVER HERE!

GO LEER AT THE SALESMEN FOR A MINUTE, HONEY! I WANT TO GANDER THIS STRING OF ICE FIRST! OR COME ON ALONG!



HI, MR. SHANNON, MISS DAWSON! QUITE A HUNK OF TROUBLE, EH?

HELLO, PETE! IT WOULD BE TROUBLE FOR ANY JERK WHO TRIED TO HEIST IT! I'VE SEEN YOU HANDLE THAT .38 ON THE TARGET RANGE!



OOOO! WHAT A MAGNIFICENT NECKLACE, KEN!

NEAT, BUT NOT GAUDY! WELL, LET'S GO SPEND MY HARD-EARNED CASH AND GET BACK TO WORK, SUGAR PLUM!



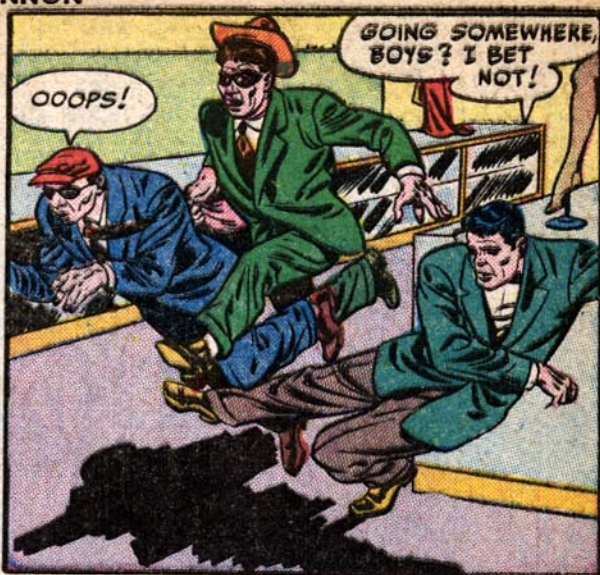
WE WERE MAYBE TWENTY FEET AWAY WHEN IT HAPPENED!

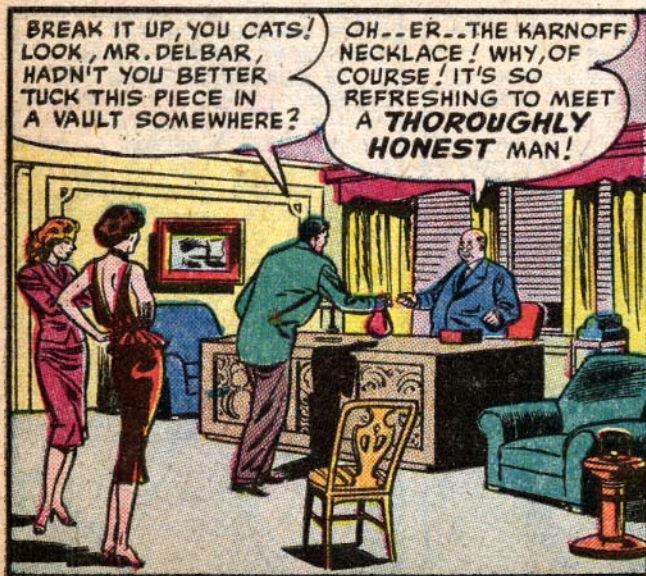
I WONDER HOW IT WOULD FEEL TO WEAR THAT... KEN!

BANG!

EEEEK!









I SEEMED TO GET AN UNEXPECTED ALLY!

POLI---
ULP---
WHAT?
NOW SEE
HERE,
DARL---
ER...MISS
GALEY!

WE
WERE
INTER-
RUPTED
BY THE
MOST
WELCOME
GUY IN THE
WORLD---
MY PAL,
DETECTIVE
LIEUTENANT
ART
CLYDE
OF
HOMICIDE!

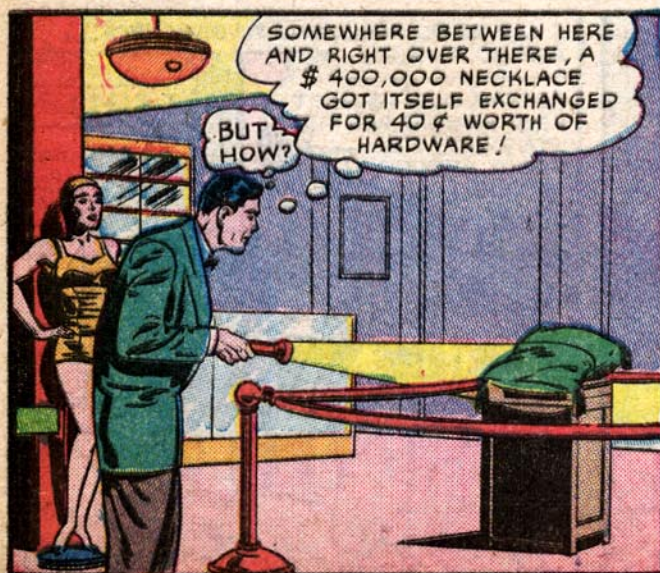
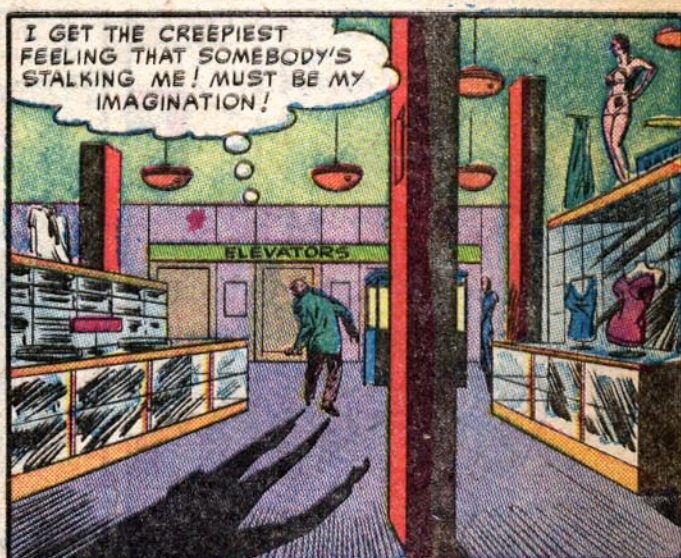
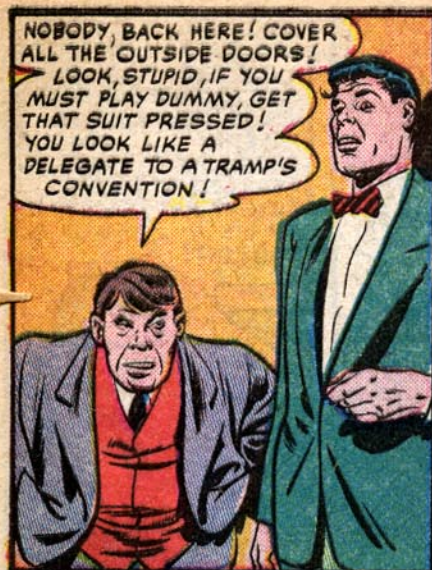


There
WAS NO
TIME TO
STUDY
DEVELOP-
MENTS! I
SCRAMMED,
BUT FAST,
WITH
ART
CLYDE
SHOOTING
COMFORT-
ABLY
OVER
MY HEAD!

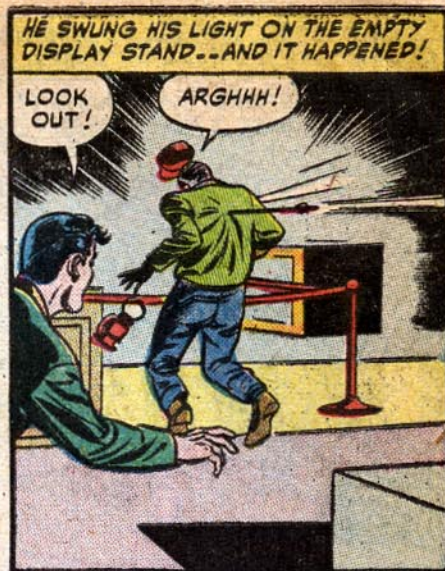
REMARK ME TO
THANK ART WHEN
THIS DEAL IS
WIPE UP!

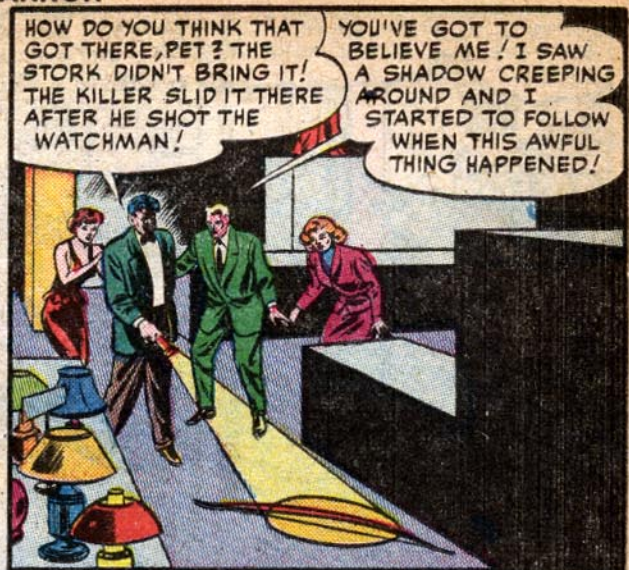
SPREAD OUT! HE MUST
HAVE HEADED FOR THE
STAIRWAY! I'LL
SCOUT AROUND
HERE!

SUITS











STOP!
STOP OR
I'LL...

UH-UH-UH, ART! THE PLEASURE
IS ALL MINE, MY BOY!



ON HIM TWO
HEADS LOOK
NORMAL!

GEE, THERE ISN'T ANYTHING
MY KENNY CAN'T DO!



NICE GOING,
KEN, BUT
WHAT'S THE
STORY? I'M
STILL CON-
FUSED!

FROM THAT POOTSY
NICKNAME, I GATHER
HE WAS PLAYING POST
OFFICE WITH DAWN...
AND SHE PROBABLY
WENT THROUGH HIS
BANKROLL FAST! SHE'S
AN EXPENSIVE TOY,
I'LL BET!



THAT'S TRUE, SIR!
I'D ALREADY FOUND
IRREGULARITIES IN
THE BOOKS NOBODY
ELSE HAD ACCESS
TO!

DELBAR GOT
THE IDEA OF
STEALING THE
KARNOFF,
COLLECTING
INSURANCE AND
PROBABLY RE-
TURNING IT
LATER FOR A
REWARD! CUTE
STUFF!



OKAY, BRAIN-
BOY! YOU'RE
A GENIUS...
BUT WHERE
IS THE NECK-
LACE?

RIGHT WHERE IT'S
BEEN THE WHOLE TIME,
OR I MISS MY GUESS!
I'LL BET A QUARTER
IT WAS NEVER
STOLEN!



IT WAS JUST PUSHED
INTO THIS TRICK STAND!
DELBAR MEANT TO GET
IT TONIGHT! HE GOT
PANICKY WHEN HE SAW
ME EXAMINING THE
STAND!

AND THAT
POOR WATCH-
MAN! DELBAR
WAS AFRAID
HE'D DISCOVER
THE TRAP
DOOR, TOO!



OKAY, BUT
HOW
DID YOU
GUESS
IT WAS
DELBAR?

BY THE RED
BRUISE...
WHERE THE
BOWSTRING
SLAPPED
HIS WRIST
WHEN HE
SHOT!
SKYME HAD
NO MARKS
AT ALL!



WHEN EVERYTHING WAS TIED UP
NEATLY, I TOOK DEE DEE HOME!

OH!! WE
FORGOT YOUR
SUIT! BUT
THEY'RE HAVING
A SPECIAL SALE
TOMORROW AT
AKER'S!

OH, NO! I SAW
THEIR AD! IT SAYS
THEY'RE MURDER-
ING PRICES...
AND I'VE HAD
ENOUGH MURDER
FOR ONE WEEK,
PET!

ANGLES O' DAY

NOT-SO-SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR

HOW'S THE
AMMUNITION
HOLDING OUT,
SHAGMORE?

DRAINING FAST,
ANGLES! WE'RE DOWN
TO SIX CANS, FOUR
BOTTLES, ONE LEFT
SHOE AND A
MAYONNAISE JAR!

CITY
DUMP

ANGLES O'DAY TANGLES WITH
SOME HUMAN JUNK ON A
GARBAGE TRUCK OVER SOME
CASH IN THE TRASH AND
NEARLY WINDS UP
DOWN IN THE DUMPS-
FOR GOOD!

HO-HUM!
RADIATOR
FEELS GOOD!
ANY CALLS
FOR ME
TODAY, POPO?

PLANTY! ALL CREDITORS!
I'M TELLING YOU, O'DAY YOU
GOTTA OPERATE YOUR BROKEN-
DOWN DETECTIFF AGENCY
FROM ELSEWHERE! EVERY
DAY BILL COLLECTORS
OVERRUNNING THE JOINT
IS GIVING MINE POOL
ROOM A BAD NAME!

AW, GIVE 'M
A BREAK,
POPO! WHY,
WHEN HIS
SHIP COMES
IN....

POPO'S
POOL
PARLOR

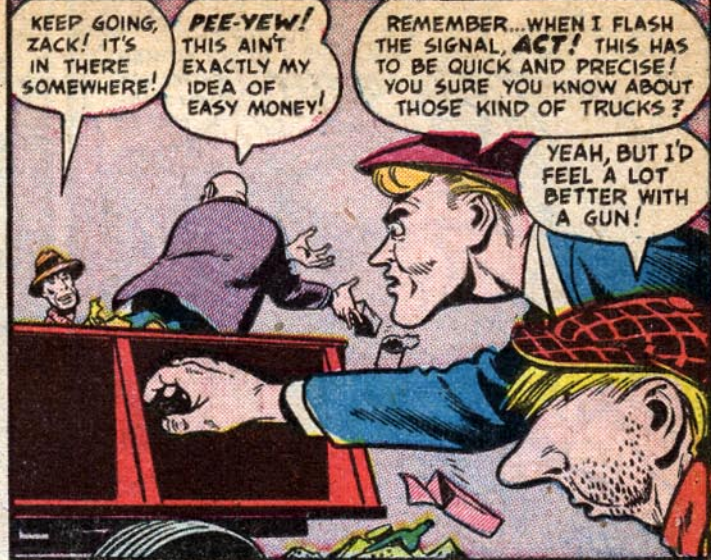
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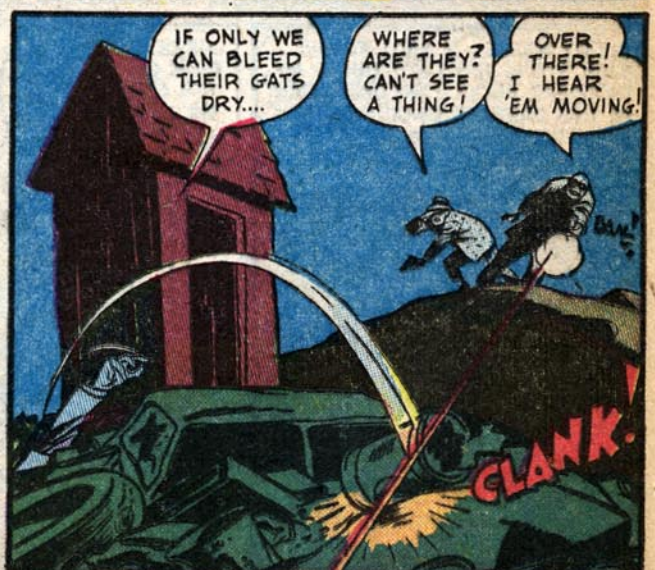
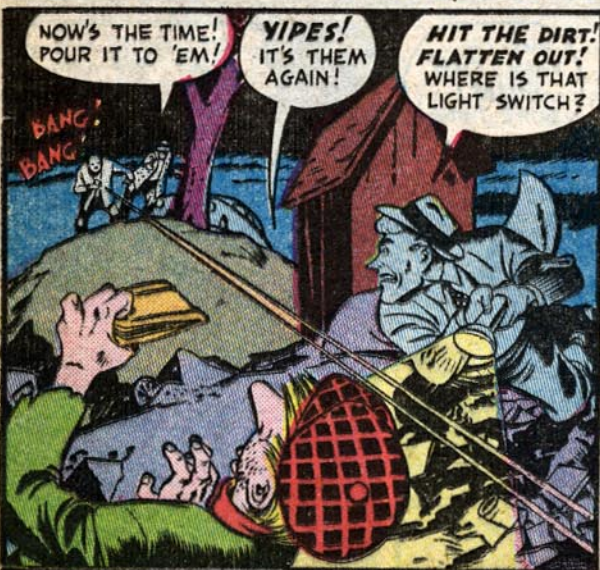
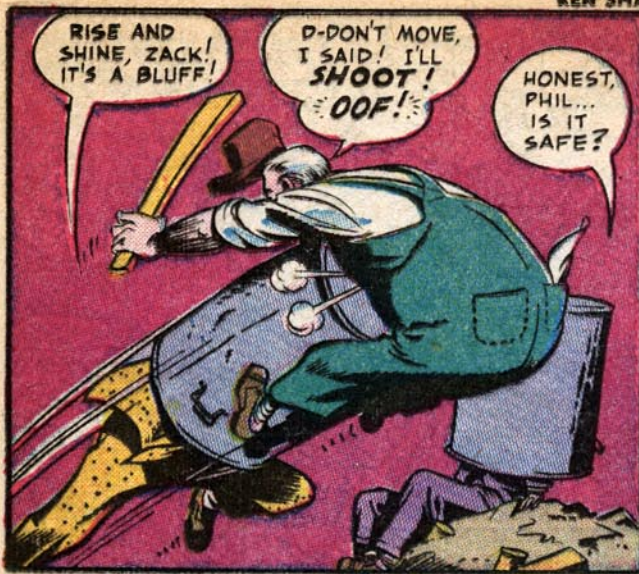
HAH! WHEN
HIS SHIP GOES
OUT- WITH HIM
ON IT- THAT'S
WHAT I'M
WAITING FOR!

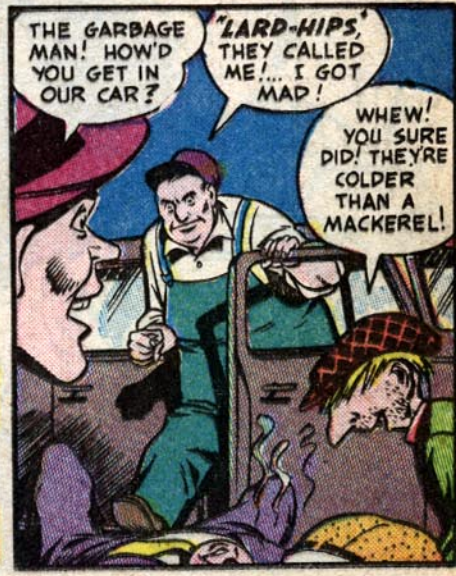
NOW SEE
HERE....!

NEVER MIND,
SHAGMORE! LET
THE COMMON HERD
DEFILE ME! THAT'S
THE PRICE OF
GENIUS!



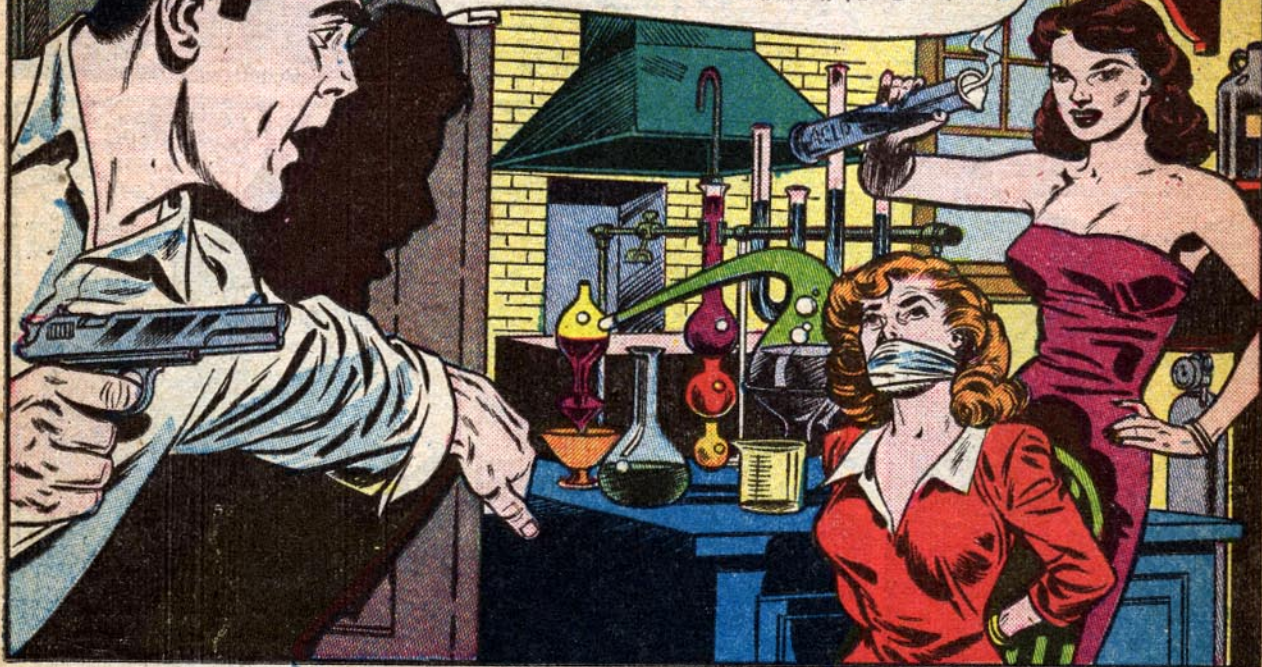






Ken Shannon

IN THIS SNOOP-AND-SHOOT RACKET YOU MEET SOME DIZZY CHARACTERS... AND SOME SHARP ONES! BUT FOR SHEER COLD-BLOODED, DIABOLICAL CUNNING NOBODY COULD MATCH THE MURDEROUS MISTER ESTERFY AND HIS GLAMOROUS TRIGGER GAL, LORENA, WHO HANDED ME A SPECIAL INVITATION to a **MURDER!**



COMING BACK FROM LUNCH I HAD NO IDEA WHAT I WAS WALKING INTO!



HEY!



OOOOFF!



OH, DEAR!



I LIMPED INTO MY OFFICE, TRYING TO COLLECT THE SHATTERED PIECES OF MY DIGNITY!



BEFORE I GRABBED THE PHONE, I KNEW IT WOULD BE DEE DEE... AND THE TERROR IN HER VOICE TOLD ME MORE THAN HER WORDS!

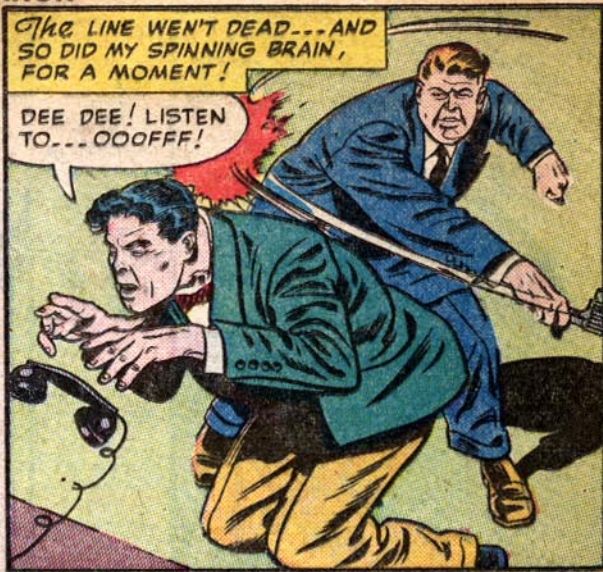


DEE DEE, IF THEY'VE HURT YOU...!

THEY HAVEN'T, KEN! BUT YOU MUSTN'T HELP THEM! DON'T TH-TINK ABOUT ME! I CAN T-TAKE IT!

THE LINE WEN'T DEAD---AND SO DID MY SPINNING BRAIN, FOR A MOMENT!

DEE DEE! LISTEN TO---OOOFFF!



JUST SO YOU KNOW WHO'S BOSS, SHANNON! IF YOU TRY ANYTHING, THE GIRL WILL PAY THE PENALTY!

EMIL IS GUARDING HER, KEN, AND EMIL HATES WOMEN! YOU WOULDN'T LIKE WHAT HE'D DO IF ANYTHING WENT WRONG!



IT'S YOUR BALL, YOU FAT RAT! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

THAT'S BETTER! IT'S QUITE SIMPLE, REALLY! AT TWO O'CLOCK YOU WILL GO TO THE ALDIA LABORATORIES, ON MARCH STREET!



YOU WILL WALK IN! A MAN IS LYING ON THE FLOOR, SHOT TO DEATH! YOU WILL MERELY FIX THINGS SO THE POLICE ACCEPT IT AS SUICIDE!

A CLEVER DETECTIVE LIKE YOU WILL KNOW HOW TO ARRANGE THE DETAILS, KEN! YOU'LL PHONE THE POLICE WHEN YOU'RE READY!



YOU MURDERED SOME GUY AND WANT ME TO COVER FOR YOU! WHY, YOU...!

IT WAS HIS FAULT, SHANNON! WE OFFERED TO BUY HIS DRUG FORMULA, BUT HE CHOSE TO BE DIFFICULT! UNFORTUNATELY, THE MURDER COULD BE TRACED TO ME!



REMEMBER... TWO O'CLOCK SHARP! TELL THE POLICE HE WAS A CLIENT IN TROUBLE WHO TOOK THE EASY WAY OUT! I'LL SEE YOU LATER!

AND I'M STAYING AS YOUR SECRETARY, KENNY BOY! I JUST KNOW YOU'LL COME TO APPRECIATE ME WHEN YOU KNOW ME BETTER!



THE PHONE RANG AGAIN, JUST AS MR. ESTERFY WENT OUT, CHUCKLING!

HELLO!...YES, EMIL! HE'S COOPERATING BEAUTIFULLY... SO FAR! PHONE EVERY 15 MINUTES! IF I DON'T ANSWER, YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!



YOU'VE GOT ME OVER A BARREL, SISTER! BUT HOW DO I KNOW YOU'LL LET DEE DEE GO IF I PLAY BALL?

DON'T YOU TRUST US, HONEY? THE MOMENT THE POLICE REPORT MARTIN ALDIA'S SUICIDE, YOUR SILLY GIRL WILL BE SET LOOSE! NOW RUN ALONG!



AND DON'T TRY ANY TRICKS, KEN DEAR! YOU'LL BE FOLLOWED EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

GET THAT LYING THROAT OF YOURS OUT OF MY REACH BEFORE I LOSE MY SELF CONTROL, BABY!

TRUST THEM? I WOULDN'T TRUST LORENA OR MR. ESTERFY AS FAR AS I COULD THROW A BULL BY THE TAIL!



BUT THERE'S NO WAY OF KNOWING WHERE DEE DEE'S HELD! I'VE GOT TO PLAY IT STRAIGHT UNTIL I GET SOME KIND OF BREAK!



THE ALDIA LABORATORIES DOOR WAS UNLOCKED! I WALKED INTO A SMALL, EMPTY OFFICE!

NOBODY HERE! THE LABORATORY MUST BE IN THE BACK!



MY NERVES WERE TWITCHING WITH A SHARP SENSE OF DANGER!

HELLO? ANYBODY HERE?



I GOT MY ANSWER THE HARD WAY!

AGHHH!



THE LAST THING I HEARD BEFORE I BLACKED OUT COMPLETELY WAS THE ECHOING THUNDER OF A GUN-SHOT!



I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I WAS OUT! I CAME TO WITH MY HEAD SPLITTING! AND A GUN IN MY HAND!

WH-WHERE DID I GET THIS GUN? WHY, IT'S MY OWN---THE ONE ESTERFY TOOK FROM ME!



I GUESSED THE PICTURE EVEN BEFORE I LOOKED UP AND SAW MARTIN ALDIA'S BODY!

UPL! IT'S A MILLION TO ONE HE WAS KILLED WITH MY GUN! THAT WAS THE SHOT I HEARD AS I WENT UNDER!



HE'S STILL WARM! ESTERFY GOT HERE FIRST AND WAITED TO KONK ME BEFORE HE FIRED---EEEOW! POLICE SIRENS HEADED THIS WAY! THAT MAKES THE FRAME-UP PERFECT!



I WAITED JUST LONG ENOUGH TO DO ONE MESSY JOB!

NOW LET'S SEE YOU RATS WIGGLE OUT OF THIS KILL! ALDIA **COULD** HAVE LIVED LONG ENOUGH TO SCRAWL THAT MESSAGE!



I GOT OUT THE BACK WINDOW AS THE POLICE BURST IN! RIGHT THEN I DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO MEET MY PAL, LIEUTENANT ART CLYDE OF HOMI-CIDE!

HERE HE IS! WHOEVER PHONED THAT ANONYMOUS TIP WASN'T KIDDING!

LOOK, LIEUTENANT! HE LASTED LONG ENOUGH TO NAME THE KILLERS!



I'VE GOT TO SAVE DEE DEE! AND ALL OF A SUDDEN, I KNOW WHERE SHE IS!

MAYBE THAT BUMP ON THE SKULL JARRED MY BRAINS BACK INTO FOCUS! ANYHOW, I WAS FINALLY WAKING UP!



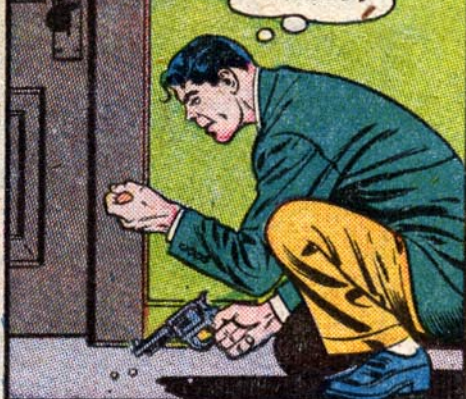
THEY COULDN'T HAUL DEE DEE OUT OF THE BUILDING AT NOON WITHOUT BEING SEEN! THEY'RE TOO SMART TO EVEN TRY!

GREY BLDG

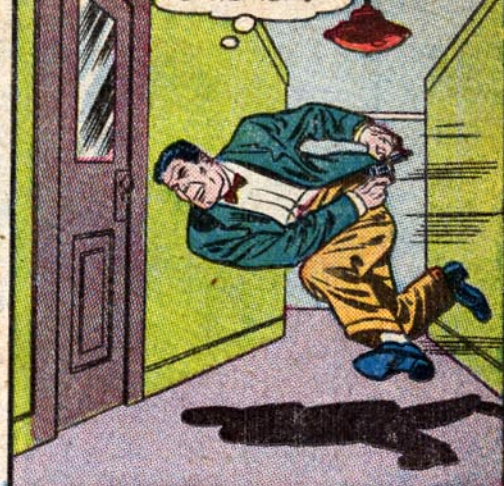
THE ONLY PLACE THEY COULD RISK TAKING HER WOULD BE RIGHT INTO ONE OF THE NEIGHBORING OFFICES!



WHAT A DUMMY I WAS! THOSE WEREN'T PILLS ESTERFY WAS SWEEPING UP! THEY WERE DEE DEE'S BEADS, BROKEN WHEN THEY DRAGGED HER NEXT DOOR! HERE'S ONE HE MISSED!



HEAVEN HELP THOSE MURDERING WOLVES IF I'M TOO LATE TO SAVE HER!



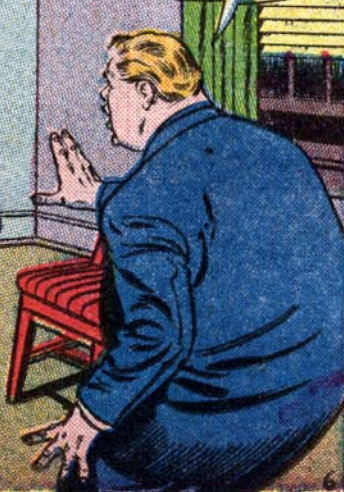
I SLAMMED THROUGH THAT DOOR INTO A TABLEAU OF IMPENDING MURDER!



SHOOTING IS TOO GOOD FOR YOU!



EEEEAAHHH! GET BACK!



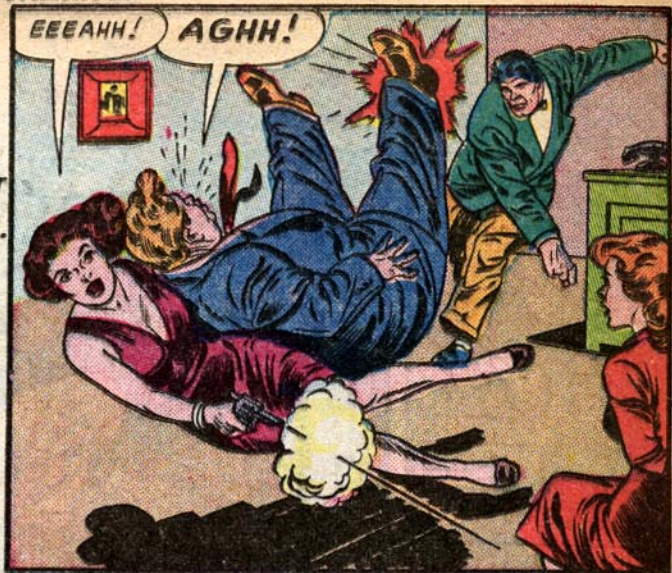
OWOOOF!



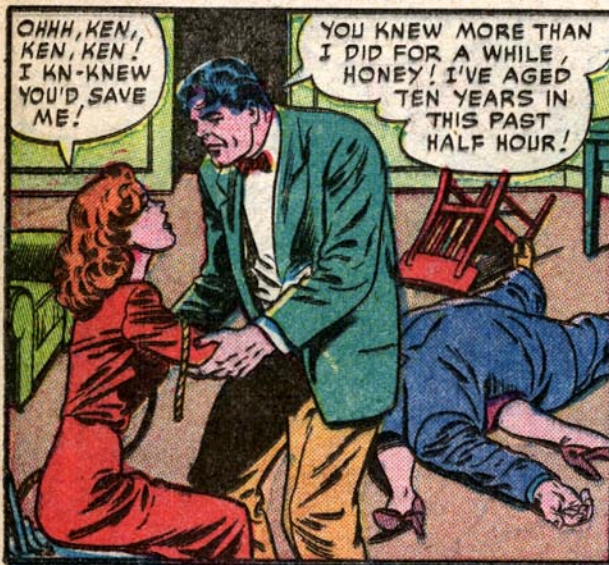


I'LL KILL THE GIRL!

I PUT EVERYTHING I HAD INTO THAT LAST PUNCH... AND IT GOT ME TWO BIRDS WITH ONE SOCK!



EEEEHH! AGHH!



OH, KEN, KEN, KEN! I KN-KNEW YOU'D SAVE ME!

YOU KNEW MORE THAN I DID FOR A WHILE, HONEY! I'VE AGED TEN YEARS IN THIS PAST HALF HOUR!



I PHONED ART CLYDE AND HIS HOMICIDE SQUAD AND GAVE THEM THE STORY!

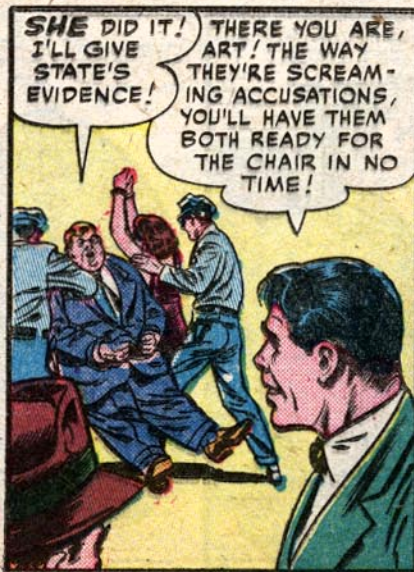
THAT SEWS UP THAT ALDIA MURDER, TOO! KEN, YOU'RE THE LUCKIEST GAMBLER ON RECORD! IF YOU'D GUESSED WRONG ABOUT DEE DEE...

IT WASN'T A GAMBLE, ART! IF I HADN'T GUESSED AT ALL, THEY'D HAVE FINISHED HER!



I THINK LORENA DID THE ACTUAL KILLING, ART! MAYBE FAT BOY WILL TESTIFY AGAINST HER AND GET HIMSELF OUT OF THE CHAIR!

WHAT? WHY, YOU DIRTY... HE KILLED ALDIA! I WASN'T EVEN THERE AND YOU KNOW IT!



SHE DID IT! I'LL GIVE STATE'S EVIDENCE!

THERE YOU ARE, ART! THE WAY THEY'RE SCREAMING ACCUSATIONS, YOU'LL HAVE THEM BOTH READY FOR THE CHAIR IN NO TIME!



BY THE WAY, KEN, NEXT TIME YOU RUN OFF DOWN AN ALLEY, YOU'D BETTER WEAVE A LITTLE! I COULD HAVE PLUGGED YOU ANY TIME BUT I WONDERED WHAT YOU WERE UP TO!

Trouble in Iran!

BRITAIN AND RUSSIA SCRAMBLING FOR CONTROL
OF IRAN'S OIL FIELDS... PETE TRASK, TREASURY
AGENT, FINDS HIMSELF RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE
OF A BREWING CAULDRON!

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IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF
T-MAN
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THE CASE OF THE CHINA CAT

"PRIVATE EYES are peculiar people," thought Sally Brant as she combed her reddish hair and tried to look her best in the tired suit she had worn at work all day. "They're supposed to be rough and tough but here's Bart, gone soft because it's his birthday!"

She smiled to herself as she adjusted her hat! She was Bart Slater's secretary but she had not remembered this special day until he had come to her just before quitting time! He had perched himself on the edge of her desk, downcast!

"I'm fed up with trying to catch crooks," he had said. "Right now I'm up about four blind alleys looking for a lead on that bunch of rotten narcotics runners! Chasing clues when I should be out celebrating!"

"Celebrating? For what?" Sally had asked. That was when he had told her it was his birthday and asked her to have dinner with him! She hadn't hesitated to accept! She was pretty fond of her boss!

"I wish I had some small thing to give him," she thought! "But all the stores are closed so I guess it's too late!"

But as they walked down a dark street toward the quiet restaurant Bart had chosen for his celebration, they passed an open curio and gift shop with its windows cluttered and filled with figurines, wood carvings, and novelties. It was then that Sally hit upon an idea!

"Wait here," she said! "I'll only be a minute!" He got the pitch and sauntered along slowly, pretending not to know that he was in for a surprise!

"I want the small figure of an Irish Setter that you have in the window," she told the wizened old man who waited on her! It looked like Bart's own dog for which he had a deep devotion and it would be a slight remembrance, at least!

She felt good about finding it until she glanced in a mirror on the wall and saw the image of a bony cheeked man, squinting at her through narrow slits of eyes around a draped curtain in the back! She paid the old man and picked up a package and was glad to get out on the street, back to Bart!

He was a few feet down the walk as she rushed toward him! She didn't see what went on after she left the shop! The sinister character walked through the curtained door toward the shop clerk and scowled as he gave orders!

"There'll be another shipment tomorrow," he said. "I'll take this package now and—!" He stared as he felt through the paper! "You dumb old fool!" he screamed. "You let that woman walk away with the cat!"

Sally stopped under a street light to give Bart his

gift! "It's not much," she told him! "Just a figure of a dog I thought you might like!"

But as he took it from the paper, he began to laugh! "Dog?" he grinned. "Looks more like a cat to me!"

Just then, someone ran past, conked Bart on the back of the head and grabbed the china cat! Sally screamed! Bart slumped to the sidewalk! And the attacker was gone!

"Bart, are you badly hurt?" asked Sally, lifting his head in her arms!

"Don't think so," he answered, feeling for the lump that was already rising! "Only I'd like to know why somebody wanted that cat bad enough to do this!"

Sally told him about the strange man in the mirror and he insisted upon going to the shop at once! Inside, they saw the old shop keeper slumped behind the counter! But before they could pick him up, brawny men pounced upon them and they were gagged and bound to chairs in a dingy back room!

"Maybe you two know too much," sneered the character Sally remembered from the mirror. "but you won't have a chance to squeal! You'll soon be too dead!"

"A smart crimebuster I am," thought Bart after they were left alone! "I have to find a way to get us out of here for Sally's sake!"

Reviewing the facts, he remembered what Sally had said about the face in the mirror! It gave him an idea! Tipping over his chair and himself with it, he inched his way toward Sally and motioned with his head for her to drop her purse! When she did, all the contents spilled to the floor including a small mirror which broke! Picking up a sharp piece with his tied hands, he reached up toward Sally's ropes and cut her loose!

"Lay low," he advised after she had set him free and they heard their captors coming! "I'll handle them, now that my fists are available!"

The fight that followed looked like defeat for Bart until Sally joined in! She diverted their attention while Bart did the slugging! The men fell beneath his blows! Then they rushed to the front of the shop and found the old man, sitting up and groggy! He told a story of being forced to accept smuggled narcotics, hidden in the figures of china cats!

It was midnight by the time the miscreants had confessed and were behind bars! "Your birthday," sighed Sally! "It's over!"

"And you gave me the best gift of all," he said grinning, "by solving my case! How about a date tomorrow night, honey? We'll celebrate in a great big way!"

Ken Shannon



IN THIS RACKET YOU RUB ELBOWS WITH A LOT OF NASTY PEOPLE! YOU GET PAID TO SNOOP AND SPY AND THROW YOUR WEIGHT AROUND, TO SCARE THE B'JEEPERS OUT OF SOME MEATHEAD! I'VE TRIED TO KEEP MY OPERATIONS CLEAN AND SQUARE! THAT'S WHY IT PUT ME IN A FINE IRISH FURY TO FIND OUT I WAS HIRED TO BE A
FRONT MAN FOR MURDER!

THE TROUBLE STARTED BEFORE DEE DEE AND I EVER GOT INSIDE THE DOORS OF BOOTS DEACON'S CLUB. CADENZA!

OH, NO! DON'T GIVE ME NO TROUBLE, SHANNON! JUST RUN ALONG QUIET! WE'RE FULL UP TONIGHT!

SAMMY, MY BOY, I HAVE A PIECE OF ADVICE FOR YOU---

IF YOU EVER PLAN ON USING THAT HAND AGAIN, TAKE IT OFF MY NICE, CLEAN JACKET!

OKAY, SHANNON! I TRIED REASONIN' WIT' YOU FIRST!

NOW I'M GONNA LAY MORE'N MY HAND ON--- OWOOOOF!

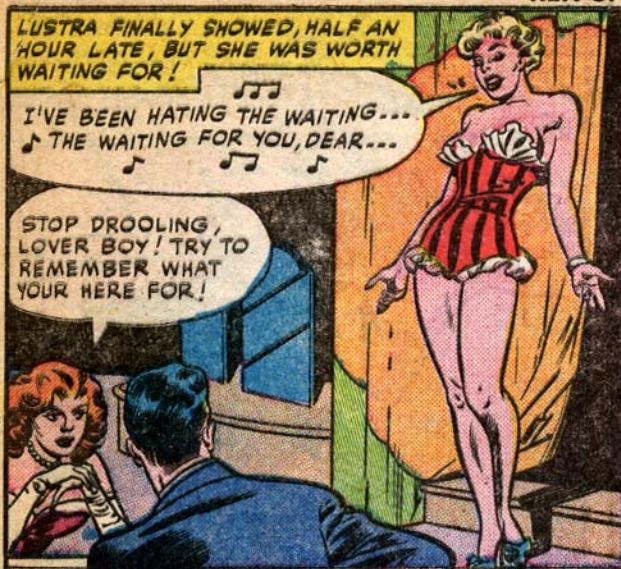
THIS WASN'T MY IDEA!





WE GOT INSIDE AND BOOTS DEACON HIMSELF WAS PLAYING HOST! I GOT SET FOR MORE TROUBLE!





LUSTRA FINALLY SHOWED, HALF AN HOUR LATE, BUT SHE WAS WORTH WAITING FOR!

I'VE BEEN HATING THE WAITING...
THE WAITING FOR YOU, DEAR...

STOP DROOLING, LOVER BOY! TRY TO REMEMBER WHAT YOUR HERE FOR!



RELAX, GREEN EYES! THAT'S MORT DORGAN, THE MILLIONAIRE SHE'S DUE TO MARRY NEXT MONTH! HE'LL HANDLE ANY COMPETITION!



SHE FINALLY FINISHED AND THE CROWD WENT WILD!

SIT TIGHT, PET, WHILE I GO BACK AND GET THE PITCH!

IF YOU AREN'T BACK IN TWENTY MINUTES, ROMEO, I'M COMING AFTER YOU! AND IF I CATCH YOU MAKING THE PITCH....!

DEE DEE ONLY KNEW... THE TINGLE IN MY NERVES WASN'T OVER THIS LUSTRA BUT OVER THE SCENT OF DANGER IN THE AIR!



HELLO! I'M KEN SHANNON!

OH, YOU'RE JUST IN TIME! COME ALONG AND I'LL EXPLAIN ON THE WAY!



UH-UH! I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA, HONEY! YOU EXPLAIN RIGHT HERE AND THEN ASK ME IF I WANT TO COME!

OH, YOU... YOU STUBBORN PERSON!



I WANT YOU AS A...A SORT OF BODYGUARD ON AN UNPLEASANT INTERVIEW I HAVE! IT'LL TAKE HALF AN HOUR AND PAY FIFTY DOLLARS!

OKAY, PEACHES! BUT IF I'M EXPECTED TO SHOOT THE LUG, MY RATE GOES UP! INFLATION, YOU KNOW!



DON'T CLAM UP YET, BABE! LET'S HAVE THE REST OF IT!

ALL RIGHT! I'M GOING TO HAVE IT OUT WITH A...A BLACKMAILER WHO'S TRYING TO WRECK MY MARRIAGE TO MORT DORGAN!



IT BEGINS TO MAKE SENSE! KEEP TALKING!

YOU SEE, KEN, THIS MAN USED TO BE MY HUSBAND! WE WERE DIVORCED, BUT WHEN I BECAME FAMOUS, HE HUNTED ME UP AGAIN!



IF I DON'T GIVE HIM HALF MY INCOME, HE SAYS HE'LL GO TO MORT WITH A LOT OF NASTY LIES AND BREAK US UP!



SHE LED THE WAY TO A MODEST WALK-UP APARTMENT!

HE DOESN'T ANSWER THE BELL! THAT'S QUEER! HE TOLD ME TO BE HERE AT ELEVEN SHARP---

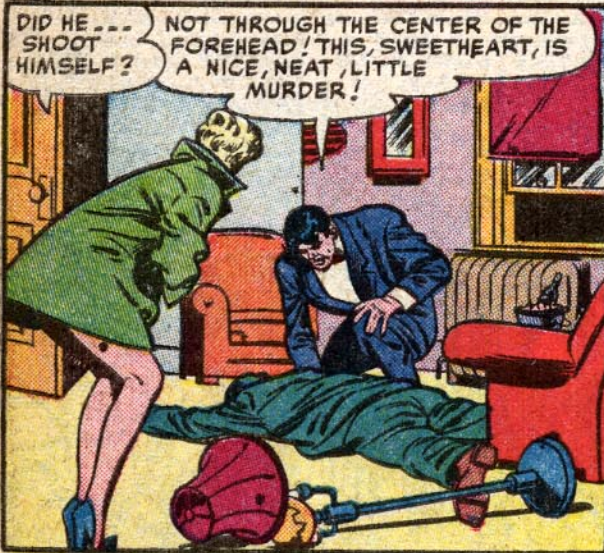
HOLD IT! THE DOOR ISN'T LATCHED!



SOMETHING TOLD ME WHAT I'D SEE, EVEN BEFORE I SHOVED THE DOOR!

OH...! IS HE...IS HE DEAD?

LOOKS LIKE IT! COME INSIDE AND DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING!



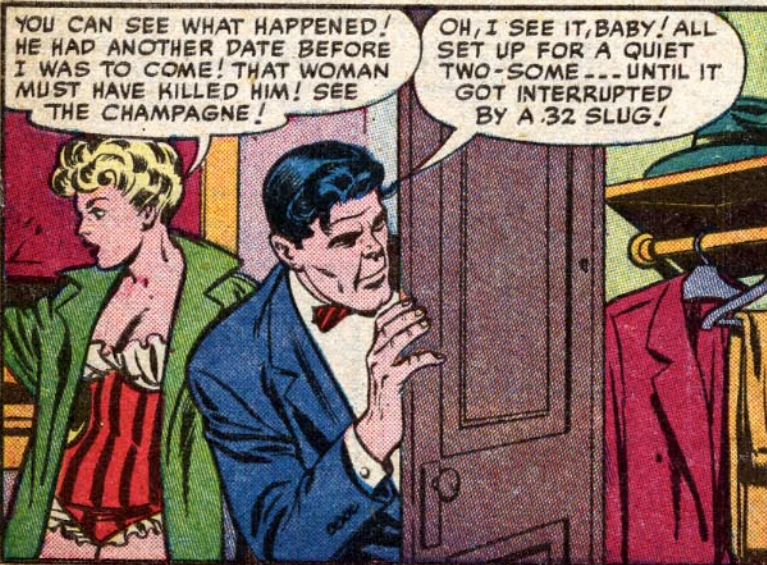
DID HE... SHOOT HIMSELF?

NOT THROUGH THE CENTER OF THE FOREHEAD! THIS, SWEETHEART, IS A NICE, NEAT, LITTLE MURDER!



THEN SOME OTHER WOMAN SHOT HIM, KEN! HE LIVED BY BLACK-MAILING WOMEN! HE WAS A BEAST!

UH-HUH! BUT A BARGAIN BASEMENT BEAST, HONEY! FOR A BLACK-MAILER, HE DIDN'T LIVE VERY HIGH! LOOK AT THIS DUMP...!



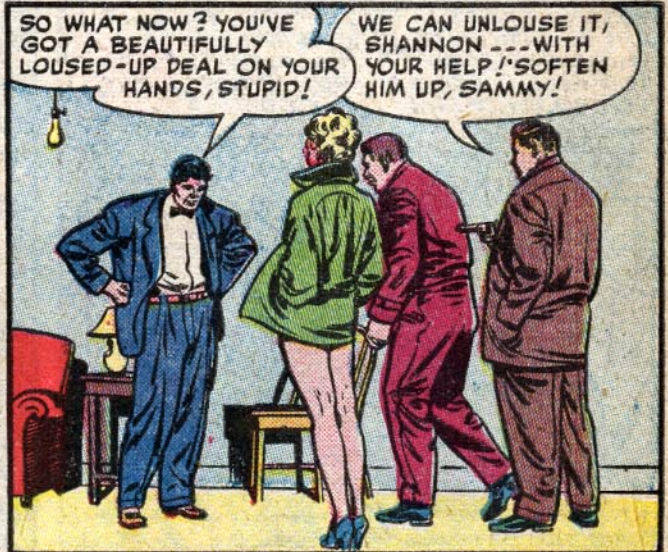
YOU CAN SEE WHAT HAPPENED! HE HAD ANOTHER DATE BEFORE I WAS TO COME! THAT WOMAN MUST HAVE KILLED HIM! SEE THE CHAMPAGNE!

OH, I SEE IT, BABY! ALL SET UP FOR A QUIET TWO-SOME... UNTIL IT GOT INTERRUPTED BY A .32 SLUG!

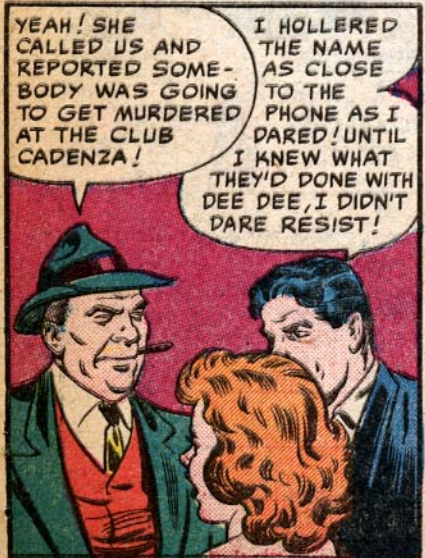
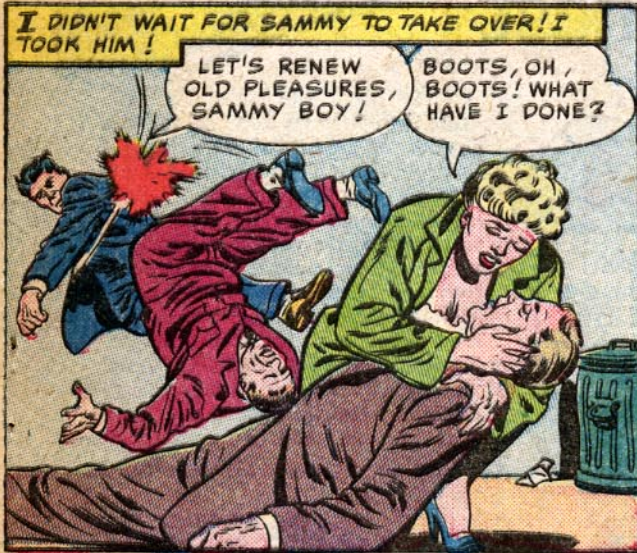


SO THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE DOING THAT MADE YOU HALF AN HOUR LATE AT THE CLUB? I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE YOUR ALIBI, IS THAT IT?

WHA...? YOU... YOU'RE MAD! HOW DARE YOU ACCUSE ME?







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YOU BUILD this Transmitter (right). As part of my Communications Course, I SEND YOU parts to build this low-power broadcasting transmitter. You learn how to put a station "on the air," perform procedures demanded of Broadcast Station operators, make many practical tests.

YOU BUILD this Wavemeter (below) in my Communications Course with parts I send you. Use it to determine frequency of operation and make other tests on transmitter currents. You conduct many interesting experiments.



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